

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 251605Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7993

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC//OP-614

OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UR, US, JA, KN, XF, XJ, XM

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS: AUGUST 25

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

--U.S. COVERAGE IS NEGATIVE IN TONE, CENTERS ON REPUBLICAN PARTY CONVENTION AND "RIGHTWARD TILT" OF PARTY PLATFORM. LITGAZ TAKES ONE MORE SWIPE AT RADIO LIBERTY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ PRINT ACCOUNT FROM BEIRUT "AL-MOHARRER" WHICH HAS PLO REPRESENTATIVES REJECTING SYRIAN "ULTIMATUM" DURING AUGUST 23 MEETING WITH SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM IN DAMASCUS.

--KZ CARRIES SHORT ARTICLE BY F. GAN ENTITLED "DANGEROUS PLANS" ABOUT AFRICAN TRIP OF U.S. ENVOYS ROGERS AND SCHAUFELLE.

--IZVESTIYA HAS "INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY" BY R. TUCHNIN ON A NEW "OPERATION PHOENIX"--THIS TIME IN LATIN AMERICA. ARTICLE DESCRIBES NEFARIOUS CIA PROGRAM IN VIETNAM, THEN USES PRESS ACCOUNTS TO LINK THIS WITH RECENT SERIES OF ASSASSINATIONS OF PROGRESSIVE LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL FIGURES.

--BOTH IZVESTIYA AND KZ DESCRIBE JOYOUS OCCASION OF SOVIET SHIP VISIT TO CUBA.

--IZVESTIYA CARRIES A BRIEF ITEM AT THE BOTTOM OF ITS "OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS" COLUMN REPORTING THAT THE DPRK EMBASSY IN MOSCOW HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 22. THE ITEM SAYS THAT THE NORTH KOREAN CHARGE "ACQUAINTED JOURNALISTS WITH THE DPRK STATEMENT" WHICH CONDEMNED U.S.-SOUTH KOREAN ACTIONS ON THE DMZ FOR PROVOKING INCIDENTS AND TENSION IN THE REGION. THE ONLY OTHER MENTION OF KOREA IN TODAY'S CENTRAL PRESS IS A STANDARD LOCAL COLOR REPORT IN PRAVDA ON THE ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NORTH KOREAN TOWN OF KUSON.

--PRAVDA'S TOKYO CORRESPONDENT LATYSHEV WRITES ABOUT THE SUCCESSFUL GROWTH OF SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT NOTES THE SLOW PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEACE TREATY, WHICH HE BLAMES ON ANTI-SOVIET AND PRO-PEKING FORCES.

2. U.S. COVERAGE IS HEAVY AND DECIDEDLY NEGATIVE.

--M. STURNA HAS A LENGTHY PIECE IN IZVESTIYA WHICH ANALYZES BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE OF "REGAN AMENDMENTS" TO REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM. STURNA EXPLAINS WHY SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE NEITHER OVER- NOR UNDER-ESTIMATED, BUT CONCLUDES THAT

IF OBJECT IS TO SPOIL DETENTE--"SOMETIMES THE WORD IS THE DEED."
STURNA VENTS PARTICULAR IRE ON HYPOCRISY AND ANTI-SOVIET NATURE
OF AMENDMENT ON MORALITY IN FOREIGN POLICY. HE USES BREZHNEV
QUOTE TO BUTTRESS HIS CLAIM THAT THIS AMENDMENT DISTORTS
ESSENCE OF HELSINKI AGREEMENTS. STURNA SPECIFICALLY ATTACKS
"AMBIGUOUS" FORMULATION, "PEACE FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH,"
WHICH, HE SAYS, "SMELLS OF OTHER TIMES."

--G. GERASIMOV PHONES IN REPORT FROM KANSAS CITY FOR LITERA-
TURNAYA GAZETA. REPORT DESCRIBES THEATRICAL ATMOSPHERE OF
CONVENTION COUPLED WITH LACK OF ATTENTION ON PART OF DELEGATES
AND PRESS. "BOB" DOLE IS DESCRIBED AS A CONSERVATIVE, "SOMEWHAT
RIGHT OF CENTER AND CLOSE IN VIEWS TO FORD HIMSELF." GERASIMOV
CITES PUBLIC OPINION POLLS WHICH SHOW CARTER LEADING FORD, BUT HE
ALSO CITES PRESIDENT'S "LACONIC" REMARK THAT ONLY SIGNIFICANT
POLL WAS THAT OF NOVEMBER 2.

--LITGAZ HAS SHORT PIECE, TITLED "TORMENT OF 'FREE EUROPE'"
BY M. ABELEV WHICH DESCRIBES DIFFICULTY RL AND RFE ARE HAVING IN
FINDING AN ALTERNATE TRANSMITTER SITE.

--PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY TOMAS KOLESNICHENKO
CONTINUES CAMPAIGN AGAINST PENTAGON'S "ISLAND DOCTRINE"
OF ESTABLISHING CHAIN OF BASES FROM JAPAN TO DIEGO GARCIA.
ARTICLE CLAIMS PENTAGON PROGRAM IS CONTRARY TO POLICY OF DETENTE.

-- AUGUST 24 EVENING TV CARRIED FIRST OF TWO HALF-HOUR
PROGRAMS ON CIA. VIEWERS WERE SHOWN CIA HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER
"FRONT ORGANIZATION" OFFICES, AND FILM CLIPS OF INTERVIEWS WITH
FORMER CIA OFFICIALS.

--LITGAZ PRINTS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF NYT ARTICLE BY
JOYCE MAYNARD ON THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWS IN AMERICA. STOESSEL

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